COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

IVIS L. WRIGHT COMPLAINANT	}
v.) CASE NO. 94-223
KENTUCKY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY)
DEFENDANT)

ORDER

On June 2, 1994, Commission received a complaint from Ivis L. Wright against Kentucky-American Water Company ("Kentucky-American"). Pursuant to Commission regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 12(4)(a), a complaint will be processed only if it states a prima facie case. To constitute a prima facie case, the complaint must be supported by sufficient evidence to show that the complainant is entitled to the relief requested.

The complaint states that:

- 1. Kentucky-American failed to conduct a scheduled January 1994 meter reading at a residence owned by the complainant;
- 2. The next reading on April 5, 1994 revealed excessive water usage which was traced to a leak in the complainant's service line;
- There were no visible signs of a water leak;
- 4. Had Kentucky-American read the meter as scheduled, the leak would have been detected in January 1994;

5. The complainant should not be held responsible for the April 1994 water bill in the amount of \$1,174.89 because it would have been significantly lower if the meter had been read in January 1994.

Based on a review of the complaint, the Commission finds it fails to state a prima facie case. The public utility law in Kentucky requires a customer to pay for all water that passes through its meter. Any leak that occurs in the service line is the sole responsibility of the customer, not Kentucky-American. Even assuming that Kentucky-American was negligent in not reading the meter earlier, such negligence does not relieve the customer of the obligation to pay for all water that passed through its meter.

The complainant should be granted 20 days to amend the complaint to state a prima facie case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Ivis L. Wright shall have 20 days from the date of this Order to file an amended complaint setting forth a prima facie case. If the complaint is not so amended within such time or such extension of time as may be granted for good cause shown, the complaint shall be dismissed without further Order of the Commission.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 10th day of June. 1994.

Chairman

Vice Chairman

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Commissioner

ATTERT:

Executive Director

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of :	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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COMPLAINT

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